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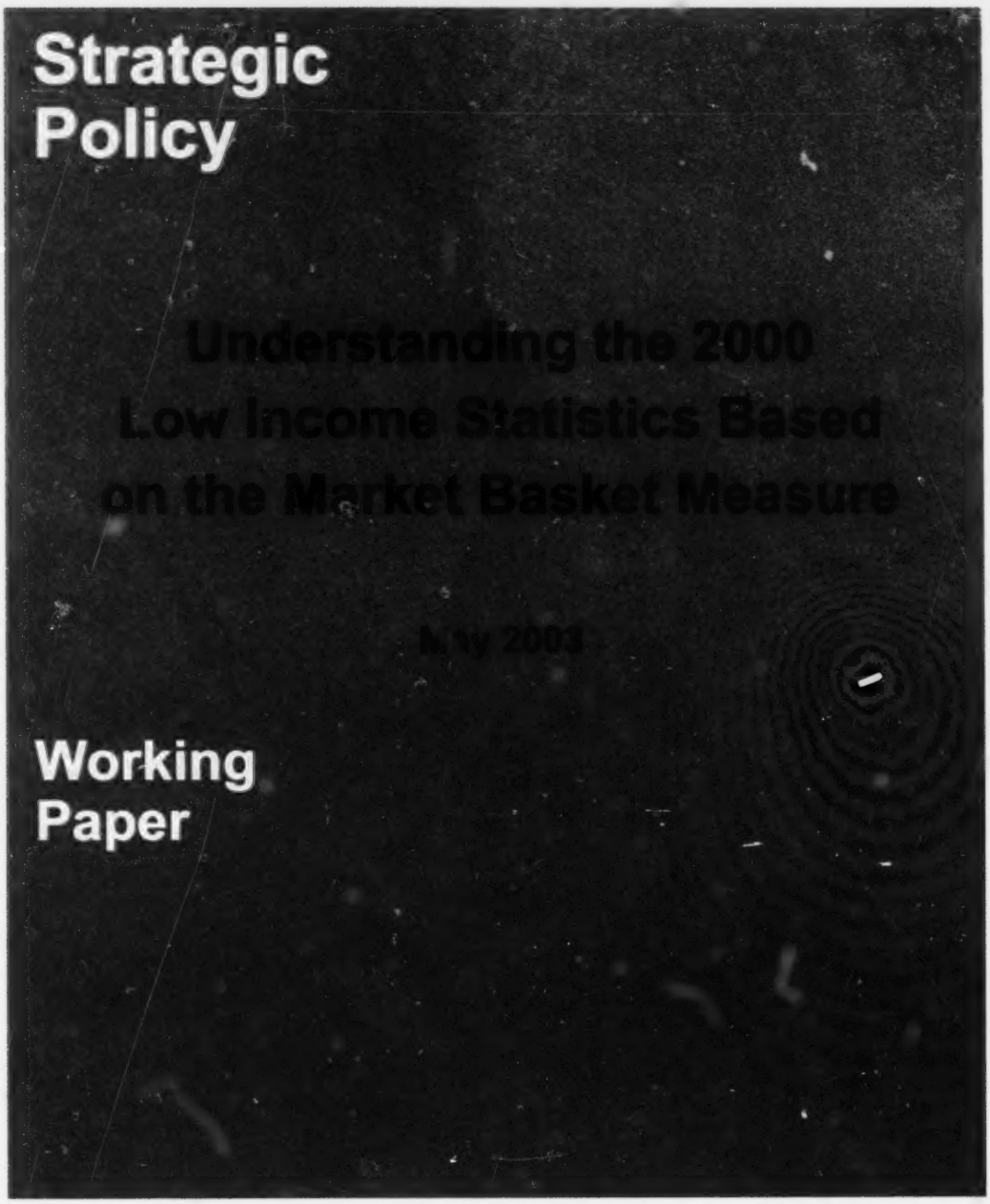
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Understanding the 2000 Low Income Statistics Based on the Market Basket Measure
May 2003
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1. Understanding the 2000 Low Income Statistics Based on the Market Basket Measure

The Market Basket Measure (MBM) is a new tool to assess low income. Its purpose is to provide another perspective on low income in Canada.[1] It will complement existing Statistics Canada measures of low income, including the pre and post -income tax Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs) and the post-income tax Low Income Measure (LIM-IAT).

The MBM was developed by Human Resources Development Canada in consultation with a Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group of officials on Social Development Research and Information. This work was initiated in 1997 when Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers responsible for Social Services raised concerns about the existing measures of low income and asked officials to explore whether a new tool could be developed to complement these measures in assessing low-income trends for families with children.

The development of the content of the MBM was a complex and rigorous process that involved substantial consultations at the national level and in several provinces. Government departments, academic experts, non-governmental organizations and advisory bodies to Statistics Canada all contributed to the development of this research tool.

Statistics Canada, on Human Resources Development Canada's behalf, collected data on the cost of goods and services in the basket to calculate thresholds for 19 specific communities and 29 community sizes in the ten provinces.

This report provides an overview of the incidence and depth of low income in Canada for the year 2000 based on the Market Basket Measure and describes it in the context of other concepts of low income, with a particular emphasis on the post-income tax Low Income Cut-off (LICO-IAT). This is the first year for which data based on the MBM has been calculated.

The MBM will be introduced in the upcoming *National Child Benefit Progress Report: 2002*. The report uses the pre and post-income tax Low Income Cut-offs and the post-income tax Low Income Measure to monitor trends in low income among families with children.

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[1] The income data for this report are from Statistics Canada's Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) which is not currently administered in Nunavut, the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. Consequently, for the year 2000 data, Statistics Canada was not able to provide reliable income estimates for persons living in these three jurisdictions. Nor was it able to produce reliable estimates for the cost of some components of the basket in the Territories. For these reasons, the MBM cannot currently be applied as a low income measure in the Territories. Work is underway to capture income and pricing data from the Territories.

Measuring Low Income

Approaches to measuring low income fall into two broad categories. The first is based on a specific quantity and quality of goods and services. This is also referred to as the "absolute" method. The pioneer of this method was the British philanthropist, Seebohm Rowntree, who used it in his house-to-house survey of the city of York in 1899.[2] Rowntree based his basket of goods and services on the amount of food, clothing and shelter required to maintain merely physical health.

The second approach is to determine the number and proportion of persons and households whose incomes fall below some fixed percentage of the average or median level of income for their household size and configuration. This is commonly referred to as the "relative approach". The calculation of Statistics Canada's Low Income Measure is an example of this "relative" method. It is set at one-half of adjusted median pre or post-income tax income. (See the section in Appendix A, on the Post-income tax Low Income Measure for a fuller description of this measure).

The Market Basket Measure (MBM) Standard of Consumption

As its name implies, the Market Basket Measure is a "goods and services" rather than a "relative" indicator of low income. The MBM estimates the cost of a specific basket of goods and services for the year 2000 assuming that all items in the basket were entirely provided for out of the spending of the household. This cost would be lower, for example, for those households who meet all or part of this standard of consumption through direct services provided by governments, other institutions or other households.[3]

As described in more detail in the methodological annex, the components of the MBM basket have been designed to represent a standard of consumption which is closer to median standards of expenditure for food, clothing and footwear and shelter than for other categories of expenditure.

The intent of the MBM is to complement other tools to assess low income such as the Low Income Cut-offs and the Low Income Measure. It is not an official poverty line nor was it designed for determining eligibility for government programs or services. The use of the MBM along with the existing tools to assess low income, recognizes that no single indicator can answer all the questions of interest for policy analysis in this area. Together they will provide a more comprehensive portrait of low income in Canada.

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[2] See S.B. Rowntree, *Poverty: A Study in Town Life*, McMillan (London, 1901).

[3] Examples of such services would be rent-geared-to-income housing and food, clothing or transportation provided by charitable institutions or relatives or friends.

Low Income Based on the Market Basket Measure

The MBM statistics in the report's accompanying tables for Canada and for each of the ten provinces are similar to those provided by Statistics Canada using the post-income tax Low Income Cut-offs (abbreviated henceforth as LICOs-IAT) in its publication, *Incomes in Canada, 2000*. Statistics are provided for persons, economic families of two or more persons and for unattached individuals (adults living alone). For those persons living in families with disposable income below their Market Basket Measure (MBM) threshold, the depth of low income is reported as the difference between their disposable income and the low-income threshold expressed as a decimal fraction of that threshold.[4] The tables compare results using the MBM to those for three other research tools assessing low income, Statistics Canada's pre-income tax Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs-IBT), the post-income tax Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs-IAT) and the post-income tax Low Income Measure (LIM-IAT).

In the following discussion most comparisons are made between results for the year 2000 using the MBM and the LICOs-IAT, the low-income measure highlighted by Statistics Canada in its annual report on incomes in Canada. The LICOs-IAT results are compared to those using MBM because both research tools are based on disposable income and the LICOs-IAT results are those most prominently featured in Statistics Canada's annual report on low income. However, as discussed below, the definition of disposable income for the MBM is much more stringent than for the LICOs-IAT.

[4] For example, a depth of low income of 0.20 means that the person lives in a family whose MBM disposable income is 0.20 or 20% below the MBM threshold for that family.

Definitions of Disposable Income and Low Income

As defined by the MBM a person in low income is someone whose *disposable* family income[5] falls below the cost of the goods and services in the Market Basket in their community or community size. (See Appendices for a detailed description of the content of the basket and how its cost was measured).

The market basket on which the MBM is based includes specified quantities and qualities of goods and services related to food, clothing and footwear, shelter, and transportation. It also contains other goods and services such as personal and household needs, furniture, telephone service and modest levels of reading, recreation and entertainment (e.g. newspaper and magazine subscriptions, fees to participate in recreational activities or sports, video rentals, tickets to local sports events).

The MBM Thresholds

As indicated above, the MBM thresholds are simply the sum of these costs in various communities and community sizes in the ten provinces. The MBM is thus sensitive to the significant geographical variations in the costs of the various components of the basket, especially those for shelter and transportation, for the reference family of two adults and two children.

The MBM thresholds also recognize that families of different sizes and compositions in the same community will require different amounts to purchase the standard of consumption represented by the goods and services in the MBM basket. Statistics Canada's Low Income Measure equivalence scale is used to establish thresholds for families of a different size and composition than the reference family (See Appendix A for a detailed description of this equivalence scale). For example, using this scale it is estimated that a single adult living alone needs one-half of the disposable income of the MBM reference family of two adults and two children to purchase the standard of consumption represented by the goods and services in the MBM basket.

Appendix G provides estimates of the amount of disposable income the MBM reference family of two adults and two children would have required in 2000 to purchase the components of the MBM basket in 19 specific communities and another 29 community sizes in the ten provinces. This amount ranged from $21,182 in urban communities with populations between 30,000 and 99,999 in Québec to $28,752 in urban communities with less than 30,000 people in British Columbia.

Among the nine largest Census Metropolitan Areas in Canada (those with populations of 500,000 or more) the amount ranged from $22,156 in Québec City to $27,791 in Vancouver.

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[5] *MBM disposable family income* is the sum remaining after deducting from total household money income the following: total income taxes paid; the personal portion of payroll taxes; other mandatory payroll deductions such as contributions to employer-sponsored pension plans, supplementary health plans and union dues; child support and alimony payments made to another household; out-of-pocket spending on child care; and non-insured but medically-prescribed health-related expenses such as dental and vision care, prescription drugs and aids for persons with disabilities.

The low-income thresholds derived from the post-income tax version of the Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs-IAT) are based on a different methodology. The LICOs-IAT identify low-income Canadians to be those living in families that spend twenty percentage points more of their total post-income tax income on food, clothing and footwear and shelter than the average family of the same size, living in the same urban or rural community size. In 1992, the average family spent 44% of its total post-income tax income on food, clothing and footwear and shelter. Thus, the LICOs-IAT were set at the point in the income distribution where a family would spend 64% or more of its post-income tax income on these three categories of expenditure.

The LICO-IAT thresholds therefore vary both by family size and by community size in recognition of the fact that shelter tends to cost more as the size of the community increases. However, geographical variations in the cost of transportation and other items do not enter into the calculation of these thresholds. Moreover, all communities of the same size have the same low-income thresholds.

Comparison of MBM and LICOs-IAT Results

As a result of the differences in how low-income thresholds are derived, a larger share of the low-income population was found in higher-cost communities and provinces using the Market Basket Measure than using Statistics Canada's post-income tax Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs-IAT).

a) Incidence

The overall incidence of low income in 2000 for the ten provinces combined using the MBM was 13.1%. This is a somewhat higher percentage than for the LICOs-IAT (10.9%), but lower than for the pre-income tax version of the LICOs (14.7%).

The main reason why the incidence of low income using the MBM was higher than using the LICOs-IAT was the more stringent definition of disposable income embodied in the MBM. Using the MBM low-income thresholds and the same definition of disposable income as for the LICOs-IAT produced an incidence of low income of 10.6%, slightly lower than for that measure (10.9%).

Children under age 18 comprised a higher share (29.5% vs. 26.6%) of the low-income population in 2000 using the MBM compared to the LICOs –IAT. Moreover, a higher share of low-income children lived in two-parent families using the MBM (61.8%) compared to the LICOs-IAT (56.3%).

These findings reflect the fact that only parents can have out-of-pocket child care expenses. Since child care is one of the expenses deducted from total household money income to calculate MBM disposable income, families with children tend to have a bigger gap between total and disposable income than families without children. The higher share of low-income children living in two-parent families may indicate that parents in such families had higher child care expenses than lone parents and/or were less likely to qualify for child care subsidies because their incomes were higher.

However, according to the MBM, the percentage of children in two-parent families living in low income (12.6%) was still much lower than the proportion living in female lone parent families (43.3%).

Seniors 65 and over comprised a lower share (5.2% vs. 8.1%) of the low-income population in 2000 using the MBM compared to the LICOs-IAT. This is the result of two related factors. First, seniors are more likely than persons under age 65 to live alone. Second, single adults living alone accounted for a *smaller* share of the low-income population (26.1%) using the MBM than using the LICOs-IAT (35.1%).

Single adults account for a smaller share of the low-income population using the MBM compared to the LICOs-IAT because they have a smaller gap between their total and MBM disposable incomes than families with children (by definition, they cannot have out-of-pocket child care costs). This reduces their relative odds of being classified as low income. This is despite the fact that persons 65 and over are more likely to have their MBM disposable income lowered by out-of-pocket costs for items such as prescription drugs and supports for persons with disabilities than the population under age 65.

b) Depth of Low Income

The depth of low income[6] is lower using the MBM than using the LICOs-IAT.

For all persons, on average in 2000, the depth of low income using the MBM was 0.309 of the MBM thresholds compared to 0.325 of the LICOs-IAT thresholds and 0.340 of the pre-income tax LICO thresholds (LICOs-IBT).

This means that among low-income persons the gap between their MBM disposable income and their MBM threshold was, on average .309 or 30.9% of the threshold. Similarly, the gap between post-income tax income and LICO-IAT thresholds was, on average, slightly higher at .325 or 32.5% of those thresholds. There is no simple explanation for why the gap was higher using the LICO-IAT thresholds.

[6] See footnote 3 for an explanation of depth of low income.

This pattern of a lower depth of low income using the MBM than using the LICOs-IAT held for most sub-categories of individuals. The exception was females over age 65 living alone whose depth of low income was .145 using the MBM and .137 using the LICOs-IAT.

A full discussion of the components of the MBM basket and a comparison between the MBM and the Statistics Canada low-income measures is found in the Methodological Annexes (appendices A through G) following the statistical tables.

2. *Interpreting the Statistical Tables*

Incidence of Low Income Statistics[7]

The incidence of low income for individuals is the percentage of individuals living in families whose disposable income falls below the relevant low-income threshold. That is, the income of the whole family (using the appropriate income definition) is compared to the relevant threshold for the family. If it is below the threshold, the family and each of its members are considered to be in low income.

Depth of Low Income Statistics

The depth of low income in the tables accompanying this document is the decimal fraction by which the income (using the appropriate low-income definition) of persons in low-income families falls short of the relevant low-income threshold. For example, a family whose MBM threshold was $25,000 with a disposable income of $20,000 would have a depth of low income of $5000/$25,000 or 0.20 or 20%.

The depth of low income is expressed as a decimal fraction of the threshold rather than as a dollar amount to ensure comparability among families of different sizes and configurations.[8] For example, an unattached person with an MBM threshold of $12,000 and a disposable income of $7000 would have more difficulty purchasing the standard of consumption represented by the goods and services in the MBM than a two-adult, two-child family with an MBM threshold of $25,000 and a disposable income of $20,000. In both cases the income gap is $5000. But in the first case the depth of low income is 0.417 or 41.7% while in the second it is 0.20 or 20%.

Definition of Terms

Economic family: An economic family is defined as a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, a common-law union or adoption.

Unattached individual: An unattached individual is a person living either alone or with others to whom he or she is unrelated, such as roommates or a lodger.

Elderly family: an economic family where the main income recipient is aged 65 or over.

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[7] Where the sample size in the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) was too small to make a reliable estimate for a specific group either nationally or within a province the letter F appears in the tables. Detailed descriptions of these three measures are found in Appendix A.

[8] There are a small number of cases in the SLID where an economic family reports a negative post-income tax income mainly because of business losses by unincorporated self-employed individuals. In such cases the depth of low income is calculated after adjusting the family's income to zero, producing a depth of low income of 100% for such families.

Non-elderly family: an economic family where the main income recipient is under the age of 65.

Married couples/Spouses: married couples, including legally married, common-law and same-sex relationships, where one of the spouses is the major income earner.

Children: a child or children (by birth, adopted, step or foster) of the main income recipient under age 18.

Lone-parent family: A family including at least one child as defined above where only one parent is present. Lone-parent families where the parent is 65 years of age or older are included under elderly families.

Relative: a person related to the main income recipient by blood, marriage, adoption or a common-law relationship.

Other relative: a person in the economic family who is neither the main income recipient nor his/her spouse or a child under age 18.

Table 1
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Canada
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure* – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	13.1	10.9	14.7	11.1
Under 18 years of age	16.9	12.6	16.6	13.5
18 to 64	13.2	11.0	13.7	11.3
65 and over	5.8	7.3	16.4	5.4
Males	12.4	9.9	13.0	10.3
Under 18 years of age	16.7	12.3	16.3	13.3
18 to 64	12.1	9.9	12.3	10.2
65 and over	4.8	4.4	9.8	4.2
Females	13.9	11.9	16.3	11.9
Under 18 years of age	17.1	12.9	16.9	13.6
18 to 64	14.3	12.1	15.0	12.4
65 and over	6.2	9.6	21.5	6.3
All families	15.5	14.6	19.5	14.0
Economic families 2+	10.7	7.9	11.0	8.7
Elderly families	4.5	2.9	7.0	4.1
Elderly married couples	2.4	1.2	4.5	1.8
Other elderly families	11.7	9.1	16.1	12.0
Non-elderly families	11.6	8.7	11.6	9.5
Married couples	8.2	5.8	8.0	6.9
Two-parent families with children	10.8	7.5	9.9	7.8
Married couples with other relatives	4.8	3.3	4.5	3.9
Lone-parent families	35.6	30.2	39.2	31.9
Male lone-parent families	16.9	11.8	14.9	13.8
Female lone-parent families	39.5	33.9	44.2	35.6
Other non-elderly families	11.8	9.4	12.7	10.8
Unattached individuals	25.6	28.6	37.3	24.9
Male	24.7	25.5	30.8	23.4
Female	26.5	31.6	43.5	26.3
All Elderly	11.7	19.9	43.0	12.2
Elderly Male	13.8	16.8	33.3	12.3
Elderly Female	11.0	21.0	46.4	12.2
All Non-Elderly	30.7	31.8	35.2	29.6
Non-Elderly Male	26.5	27.0	30.3	25.3
Non-Elderly Female	36.3	38.2	41.7	35.3

* MBM: Market Basket Measure
LICO-IAT: post-income tax Low Income Cut-off
LICO-IBT: pre-income tax Low Income Cut-off
LIM-IAT: post-income tax Low Income Measure

Table 2a

Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Newfoundland and Labrador
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	23.4	13.0	19.7	19.2
Under 18 years of age	31.6	18.2	26.5	26.6
18 to 64	22.0	12.8	18.2	17.9
65 and over	15.3	F	15.3	12.3
Males	23.0	12.7	19.0	19.0
Under 18 years of age	34.9	19.6	29.6	29.9
18 to 64	20.8	12.1	17.3	17.0
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	23.8	13.2	20.3	19.4
Under 18 years of age	28.2	16.7	23.2	23.1
18 to 64	23.2	13.6	19.0	18.8
65 and over	19.1	F	22.6	16.0
All families	25.7	15.3	23.6	21.7
Economic families 2+	20.6	11.2	16.7	16.8
Elderly families	F	F	7.4	16.8
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	21.7	12.6	18.2	17.8
Married couples	17.3	11.1	14.9	14.7
Two-parent families with children	20.9	11.1	16.7	16.7
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	61.3	43.2	57.8	56.5
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	63.6	45.6	60.0	58.6
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	46.0	31.4	50.7	41.0
Male	40.3	30.4	39.8	35.5
Female	51.8	32.5	61.7	46.5
All Elderly	43.0	F	56.1	36.3
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	49.8	F	68.5	43.2
All Non-Elderly	47.5	41.0	48.0	43.3
Non-Elderly Male	43.7	36.4	43.8	39.4
Non-Elderly Female	53.7	48.7	55.1	49.7

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2b
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Prince Edward Island
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	14.6	7.9	13.4	12.5
Under 18 years of age	17.8	6.6	13.3	13.8
18 to 64	14.3	9.0	13.0	12.5
65 and over	9.8	F	15.4	9.5
Males	13.9	7.6	12.3	11.7
Under 18 years of age	19.2	F	15.0	14.8
18 to 64	13.2	8.6	12.1	11.6
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	15.3	8.3	14.4	13.2
Under 18 years of age	16.4	F	11.5	12.6
18 to 64	15.4	9.5	14.0	13.5
65 and over	F	F	21.3	F
All families	17.8	11.8	18.9	16.1
Economic families 2+	11.7	5.8	10.1	10.0
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	21.1
Non-elderly families	12.0	5.7	10.2	10.1
Married couples	F	F	F	F
Two-parent families with children	12.5	F	F	F
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	32.8	26.7	40.4	31.2
Male	28.6	25.7	33.5	27.8
Female	36.8	27.6	46.9	34.5
All Elderly	F	F	41.9	F
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	F	F	45.8	F
All Non-Elderly	38.3	34.6	39.8	35.6
Non-Elderly Male	32.1	29.4	34.4	30.5
Non-Elderly Female	47.4	42.2	47.8	43.1

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2c
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Nova Scotia
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	16.1	10.4	15.2	14.4
Under 18 years of age	20.4	11.5	17.7	17.1
18 to 64	15.7	10.9	14.5	14.1
65 and over	10.8	5.9	14.9	11.3
Males	15.3	9.7	13.5	13.3
Under 18 years of age	21.5	12.2	18.2	18.2
18 to 64	14.2	9.9	12.8	12.5
65 and over	8.6	F	F	F
Females	17.0	11.1	16.9	15.4
Under 18 years of age	19.2	10.8	17.0	15.9
18 to 64	17.3	12.0	16.1	15.6
65 and over	12.4	7.5	20.2	13.8
All families	19.1	14.2	20.0	17.8
Economic families 2+	13.5	8.0	11.5	12.0
Elderly families	11.0	F	F	11.1
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	13.9	8.8	12.1	12.1
Married couples	12.7	8.7	10.0	11.7
Two-parent families with children	12.6	6.6	10.0	9.9
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	45.6	28.8	44.5	41.4
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	49.3	30.8	47.5	44.4
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	32.4	28.8	40.2	31.6
Male	30.2	27.6	35.0	28.2
Female	34.0	29.7	44.0	34.0
All Elderly	19.2	14.9	39.6	21.6
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	21.5	16.8	44.8	25.6
All Non-Elderly	38.4	35.1	40.5	36.0
Non-Elderly Male	34.4	31.9	37.4	32.4
Non-Elderly Female	42.3	38.2	43.6	39.6

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2d
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, New Brunswick
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	13.8	8.8	14.1	12.5
Under 18 years of age	17.1	10.3	15.4	14.3
18 to 64	13.4	9.3	13.6	12.4
65 and over	9.9	F	14.3	9.5
Males	13.3	8.7	13.0	11.7
Under 18 years of age	18.8	11.8	16.2	15.4
18 to 64	12.7	8.9	12.8	11.5
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	14.3	8.9	15.1	13.2
Under 18 years of age	15.3	8.8	14.6	13.1
18 to 64	14.1	9.8	14.4	13.3
65 and over	13.5	F	19.4	13.1
All families	17.8	12.3	19.7	16.8
Economic families 2+	11.0	6.6	10.7	10.0
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	2.5
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	12.0	7.5	11.6	10.9
Married couples	8.8	F	10.5	8.9
Two-parent families with children	11.4	6.0	9.7	8.4
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	45.6	35.5	44.2	45.7
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	52.7	41.5	51.1	52.8
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	34.7	26.6	42.1	33.9
Male	34.1	28.6	39.0	32.3
Female	35.2	24.8	45.0	35.4
All Elderly	26.4	F	40.1	25.1
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	27.7	F	42.2	26.8
All Non-Elderly	38.7	35.4	43.1	38.2
Non-Elderly Male	36.3	32.7	40.2	34.6
Non-Elderly Female	42.3	39.5	47.6	43.6

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2e
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Quebec
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	11.9	13.6	17.5	13.1
Under 18 years of age	15.1	15.0	18.7	15.4
18 to 64	12.6	13.3	16.0	13.2
65 and over	2.7	12.6	23.5	8.4
Males	10.9	11.8	14.8	11.8
Under 18 years of age	14.8	14.7	18.3	15.1
18 to 64	10.9	11.6	13.9	11.6
65 and over	F	6.4	13.1	6.3
Females	12.9	15.4	20.1	14.4
Under 18 years of age	15.4	15.2	19.1	15.8
18 to 64	14.2	15.1	18.1	14.9
65 and over	2.8	17.1	31.1	10.0
All families	14.6	18.5	23.4	16.7
Economic families 2+	9.5	9.7	12.8	10.0
Elderly families	F	F	9.1	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	5.9	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	10.8	10.6	13.4	11.0
Married couples	7.7	7.4	10.4	7.9
Two-parent families with children	8.5	8.3	10.9	8.7
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	35.4	35.2	41.4	34.3
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	39.1	39.2	46.8	38.0
Other non-elderly families	11.9	12.6	14.2	14.1
Unattached individuals	23.9	34.8	43.0	29.2
Male	22.9	28.3	33.1	26.4
Female	24.8	40.7	52.1	31.7
All Elderly	5.5	33.5	58.9	20.8
Elderly Male	F	F	41.6	19.8
Elderly Female	5.1	37.6	64.6	21.2
All Non-Elderly	30.2	35.2	37.6	32.0
Non-Elderly Male	25.3	29.4	31.8	27.4
Non-Elderly Female	36.2	42.4	44.9	37.9

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2f
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Ontario
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	11.0	9.0	12.0	8.7
Under 18 years of age	14.5	11.4	14.5	11.0
18 to 64	10.9	8.8	11.0	8.8
65 and over	4.9	5.4	12.6	3.5
Males	10.3	8.1	10.7	8.0
Under 18 years of age	13.4	10.2	13.4	10.3
18 to 64	10.2	8.1	10.1	8.1
65 and over	4.0	3.2	8.1	2.6
Females	11.7	9.9	13.4	9.4
Under 18 years of age	15.7	12.7	15.7	11.8
18 to 64	11.6	9.5	12.0	9.6
65 and over	5.6	7.1	16.1	4.1
All families	13.2	12.0	16.1	11.1
Economic families 2+	8.7	6.5	8.9	6.8
Elderly families	4.2	F	5.9	3.5
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	9.5	7.0	9.3	7.4
Married couples	6.0	3.6	5.1	4.7
Two-parent families with children	9.2	6.9	8.7	6.4
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	30.0	25.5	33.7	26.6
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	33.6	29.8	38.8	30.3
Other non-elderly families	8.9	6.5	9.7	7.8
Unattached individuals	23.7	24.8	33.1	21.2
Male	23.8	23.5	29.0	20.7
Female	23.7	26.0	36.7	21.6
All Elderly	11.0	15.2	36.2	7.4
Elderly Male	F	F	32.5	F
Elderly Female	9.9	15.5	37.5	7.0
All Non-Elderly	28.6	28.5	31.9	26.5
Non-Elderly Male	25.5	25.1	28.4	22.9
Non-Elderly Female	32.5	32.7	36.2	30.9

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2g
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Manitoba
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	13.0	12.6	17.4	13.6
Under 18 years of age	20.4	16.8	22.2	19.7
18 to 64	12.3	11.9	14.9	12.6
65 and over	3.0	8.6	20.4	7.2
Males	13.2	11.8	15.7	13.7
Under 18 years of age	22.7	17.4	22.5	21.7
18 to 64	11.3	10.7	13.4	11.9
65 and over	3.2	F	12.8	F
Females	12.9	13.5	19.2	13.5
Under 18 years of age	18.0	16.1	21.9	17.6
18 to 64	13.4	13.1	16.4	13.2
65 and over	2.8	11.1	26.2	7.9
All families	13.6	16.0	21.8	15.3
Economic families 2+	10.6	9.2	13.1	10.6
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	12.0	10.3	13.9	11.6
Married couples	6.3	F	7.3	6.3
Two-parent families with children	10.3	7.6	12.3	9.7
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	44.3	46.1	52.0	43.6
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	47.0	49.9	56.0	46.2
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	19.5	29.3	39.2	24.8
Male	21.9	29.7	33.4	27.3
Female	17.0	29.0	45.3	22.3
All Elderly	F	20.7	44.7	15.2
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	F	22.2	49.5	14.3
All Non-Elderly	27.2	34.0	36.3	30.0
Non-Elderly Male	25.7	32.8	33.5	29.8
Non-Elderly Female	29.7	35.9	41.0	30.4

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2h
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Saskatchewan
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	13.9	9.3	14.8	13.6
Under 18 years of age	19.6	11.8	18.2	19.1
18 to 64	13.8	9.9	13.5	13.4
65 and over	3.8	F	14.4	3.9
Males	13.4	8.9	13.5	12.9
Under 18 years of age	18.4	10.9	17.8	17.4
18 to 64	13.3	9.6	12.9	12.9
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	14.3	9.7	16.2	14.2
Under 18 years of age	20.8	12.7	18.7	21.0
18 to 64	14.3	10.2	14.0	14.0
65 and over	F	F	20.4	F
All families	15.5	12.2	19.2	15.4
Economic families 2+	11.8	7.1	11.5	11.4
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	13.6	8.5	12.9	13.0
Married couples	10.4	F	9.6	9.7
Two-parent families with children	10.8	5.4	9.1	9.8
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	43.1	33.2	46.5	44.0
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	45.2	35.3	48.9	46.2
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	22.8	22.4	34.7	23.3
Male	27.1	26.0	32.3	27.8
Female	18.3	18.6	37.3	18.6
All Elderly	F	F	34.9	F
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	F	F	39.3	F
All Non-Elderly	31.8	31.3	34.7	32.7
Non-Elderly Male	31.6	30.7	34.4	32.4
Non-Elderly Female	32.2	32.4	35.1	33.1

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2i
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, Alberta
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	11.9	10.1	13.6	9.5
Under 18 years of age	15.4	12.2	15.4	11.7
18 to 64	12.0	10.4	13.3	9.8
65 and over	F	F	11.0	F
Males	11.5	9.4	12.5	9.1
Under 18 years of age	15.8	12.5	16.3	12.0
18 to 64	11.2	9.3	12.0	8.9
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	12.4	10.8	14.7	10.0
Under 18 years of age	15.1	11.9	14.5	11.4
18 to 64	12.9	11.5	14.6	10.8
65 and over	F	F	15.7	F
All families	14.1	13.3	17.8	12.2
Economic families 2+	8.9	6.8	9.7	7.0
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	9.9	7.7	10.7	7.7
Married couples	6.7	F	8.1	6.0
Two-parent families with children	10.4	7.3	9.5	7.0
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	29.3	29.0	38.4	27.6
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	34.3	34.0	45.5	32.3
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	25.2	27.0	35.0	23.4
Male	22.6	23.3	27.9	21.0
Female	28.1	31.2	43.0	26.2
All Elderly	F	F	29.3	F
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	F	F	34.2	F
All Non-Elderly	30.9	32.4	36.6	28.8
Non-Elderly Male	24.7	25.2	29.4	22.9
Non-Elderly Female	40.4	43.4	47.6	37.9

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 2j
Incidence of Low Income: Various Groups, British Columbia
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	20.0	12.4	16.5	12.1
Under 18 years of age	24.1	12.0	16.9	12.7
18 to 64	20.1	13.3	16.2	13.4
65 and over	12.5	8.6	17.6	4.2
Males	19.0	11.6	14.9	11.4
Under 18 years of age	24.7	12.4	17.0	13.2
18 to 64	18.3	12.0	14.5	11.9
65 and over	11.6	F	12.8	F
Females	21.1	13.2	18.2	12.7
Under 18 years of age	23.6	11.6	16.7	12.2
18 to 64	21.9	14.6	17.9	14.8
65 and over	13.2	9.3	21.6	F
All families	22.4	16.3	21.3	14.7
Economic families 2+	17.2	9.2	12.9	9.8
Elderly families	F	F	9.4	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	18.4	10.1	13.5	10.7
Married couples	13.2	7.5	8.8	8.2
Two-parent families with children	18.5	8.5	10.9	8.5
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	43.7	25.6	40.1	29.0
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	47.8	27.1	43.8	32.4
Other non-elderly families	20.0	F	19.1	F
Unattached individuals	31.2	28.4	35.7	23.1
Male	27.7	24.5	29.0	21.0
Female	35.1	32.8	43.3	25.4
All Elderly	25.3	21.6	40.3	F
Elderly Male	F	F	36.6	F
Elderly Female	23.3	19.2	42.1	F
All Non-Elderly	33.1	30.6	34.1	28.4
Non-Elderly Male	27.4	24.1	27.7	22.6
Non-Elderly Female	41.9	40.5	43.9	37.1

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 3
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Canada
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.309	0.325	0.340	0.316
Under 18 years of age	0.256	0.265	0.313	0.261
18 to 64	0.343	0.368	0.389	0.353
65 and over	0.184	0.171	0.173	0.152
Males	0.313	0.337	0.353	0.321
Under 18 years of age	0.255	0.267	0.312	0.262
18 to 64	0.350	0.376	0.394	0.359
65 and over	0.200	0.222	0.182	0.178
Females	0.306	0.315	0.331	0.311
Under 18 years of age	0.257	0.264	0.307	0.260
18 to 64	0.338	0.361	0.375	0.348
65 and over	0.175	0.153	0.153	0.139
All families	0.349	0.357	0.380	0.349
Economic families 2+	0.292	0.307	0.337	0.302
Elderly families	0.230	0.253	0.163	0.209
Elderly married couples	0.243	0.357	0.114	0.277
Other elderly families	0.221	0.204	0.210	0.172
Non-elderly families	0.296	0.310	0.353	0.309
Married couples	0.361	0.404	0.413	0.392
Two-parent families with children	0.261	0.275	0.328	0.272
Married couples with other relatives	0.339	0.346	0.343	0.330
Lone-parent families	0.273	0.272	0.341	0.281
Male lone-parent families	0.290	0.291	0.354	0.286
Female lone-parent families	0.272	0.271	0.340	0.280
Other non-elderly families	0.349	0.371	0.380	0.346
Unattached individuals	0.399	0.385	0.407	0.384
Male	0.410	0.414	0.453	0.396
Female	0.389	0.363	0.376	0.373
All Elderly	0.154	0.151	0.194	0.117
Elderly Male	0.175	0.201	0.221	0.137
Elderly Female	0.145	0.137	0.187	0.110
All Non-Elderly	0.433	0.439	0.503	0.424
Non-Elderly Male	0.431	0.437	0.496	0.417
Non-Elderly Female	0.436	0.441	0.509	0.430

Table 4a
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Newfoundland and Labrador
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.280	0.275	0.301	0.291
Under 18 years of age	0.267	0.229	0.285	0.263
18 to 64	0.303	0.300	0.333	0.323
65 and over	0.138	F	0.131	0.134
Males	0.280	0.267	0.300	0.287
Under 18 years of age	0.266	0.218	0.270	0.255
18 to 64	0.297	0.296	0.325	0.315
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	0.281	0.282	0.302	0.295
Under 18 years of age	0.268	0.242	0.305	0.274
18 to 64	0.309	0.304	0.349	0.330
65 and over	0.128	F	0.124	0.119
All families	0.301	0.322	0.331	0.314
Economic families 2+	0.280	0.255	0.309	0.292
Elderly families	F	F	0.138	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.289	0.259	0.320	0.301
Married couples	0.349	0.326	0.384	0.375
Two-parent families with children	0.267	0.223	0.289	0.269
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.282	0.221	0.323	0.275
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.280	0.221	0.325	0.275
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	0.337	0.415	0.361	0.349
Male	0.338	0.388	0.416	0.354
Female	0.336	0.441	0.325	0.345
All Elderly	0.116	0.213	0.131	0.105
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	0.124	0.213	0.133	0.111
All Non-Elderly	0.434	0.444	0.492	0.449
Non-Elderly Male	0.366	0.388	0.443	0.378
Non-Elderly Female	0.528	0.514	0.558	0.543

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4b
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Prince Edward Island
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.286	0.298	0.292	0.282
Under 18 years of age	0.221	0.244	0.242	0.215
18 to 64	0.337	0.332	0.346	0.332
65 and over	0.133	F	0.145	0.140
Males	0.302	0.315	0.305	0.301
Under 18 years of age	0.218	F	0.229	0.213
18 to 64	0.357	0.354	0.364	0.353
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	0.271	0.282	0.281	0.266
Under 18 years of age	0.225	F	0.274	0.216
18 to 64	0.320	0.313	0.337	0.313
65 and over	F	F	0.145	F
All families	0.319	0.320	0.336	0.305
Economic families 2+	0.290	0.278	0.323	0.283
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.300	0.304	0.334	0.291
Married couples	F	F	F	F
Two-parent families with children	0.238	F	F	F
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	0.344	0.343	0.344	0.323
Male	0.434	0.387	0.405	0.391
Female	0.280	0.304	0.303	0.272
All Elderly	F	F	0.123	F
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	F	F	0.133	F
All Non-Elderly	0.408	0.372	0.446	0.386
Non-Elderly Male	0.447	0.393	0.452	0.411
Non-Elderly Female	0.368	0.351	0.439	0.361

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4c
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Nova Scotia
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.284	0.294	0.318	0.283
Under 18 years of age	0.244	0.239	0.283	0.244
18 to 64	0.319	0.326	0.364	0.323
65 and over	0.162	0.175	0.165	0.137
Males	0.281	0.296	0.328	0.284
Under 18 years of age	0.244	0.246	0.289	0.242
18 to 64	0.312	0.321	0.364	0.318
65 and over	0.185	F	F	F
Females	0.287	0.292	0.310	0.282
Under 18 years of age	0.244	0.231	0.264	0.247
18 to 64	0.325	0.330	0.357	0.326
65 and over	0.149	0.151	0.155	0.123
All families	0.327	0.336	0.366	0.322
Economic families 2+	0.261	0.244	0.306	0.258
Elderly families	0.153	F	F	0.123
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.276	0.254	0.322	0.280
Married couples	0.323	0.287	0.380	0.313
Two-parent families with children	0.233	0.246	0.290	0.238
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.255	0.210	0.287	0.251
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.247	0.210	0.285	0.256
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	0.392	0.397	0.407	0.380
Male	0.418	0.418	0.439	0.421
Female	0.375	0.383	0.389	0.355
All Elderly	0.176	0.185	0.219	0.146
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	0.156	0.149	0.225	0.121
All Non-Elderly	0.440	0.437	0.490	0.443
Non-Elderly Male	0.429	0.421	0.477	0.428
Non-Elderly Female	0.448	0.450	0.500	0.454

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4d
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, New Brunswick
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.315	0.327	0.318	0.310
Under 18 years of age	0.273	0.250	0.295	0.270
18 to 64	0.362	0.370	0.364	0.359
65 and over	0.115	F	0.131	0.086
Males	0.327	0.336	0.336	0.328
Under 18 years of age	0.274	0.248	0.308	0.276
18 to 64	0.366	0.380	0.368	0.366
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	0.305	0.318	0.303	0.295
Under 18 years of age	0.271	0.252	0.296	0.262
18 to 64	0.358	0.362	0.360	0.353
65 and over	0.106	F	0.129	0.076
All families	0.339	0.371	0.353	0.332
Economic families 2+	0.305	0.278	0.307	0.294
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.312	0.284	0.317	0.302
Married couples	0.410	F	0.347	0.376
Two-parent families with children	0.311	0.285	0.304	0.324
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.250	0.193	0.313	0.244
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.243	0.179	0.309	0.236
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	0.366	0.428	0.383	0.360
Male	0.399	0.424	0.427	0.403
Female	0.336	0.432	0.347	0.324
All Elderly	0.097	F	0.130	0.066
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	0.097	F	0.132	0.064
All Non-Elderly	0.454	0.466	0.496	0.454
Non-Elderly Male	0.430	0.432	0.470	0.435
Non-Elderly Female	0.485	0.509	0.528	0.476

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4e
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Quebec
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.297	0.313	0.345	0.296
Under 18 years of age	0.231	0.272	0.326	0.251
18 to 64	0.327	0.357	0.394	0.337
65 and over	0.172	0.141	0.192	0.095
Males	0.298	0.324	0.357	0.298
Under 18 years of age	0.227	0.265	0.323	0.251
18 to 64	0.335	0.361	0.394	0.335
65 and over	F	0.179	0.200	0.103
Females	0.295	0.305	0.337	0.294
Under 18 years of age	0.236	0.279	0.323	0.250
18 to 64	0.321	0.355	0.378	0.339
65 and over	0.173	0.131	0.179	0.091
All families	0.341	0.336	0.383	0.327
Economic families 2+	0.268	0.288	0.339	0.280
Elderly families	F	F	0.167	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	0.131	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.271	0.297	0.358	0.290
Married couples	0.337	0.330	0.368	0.357
Two-parent families with children	0.229	0.278	0.331	0.249
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.253	0.286	0.374	0.294
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.242	0.281	0.369	0.290
Other non-elderly families	0.314	0.337	0.395	0.286
Unattached individuals	0.395	0.362	0.408	0.357
Male	0.398	0.409	0.460	0.373
Female	0.393	0.332	0.378	0.346
All Elderly	0.140	0.139	0.213	0.081
Elderly Male	F	F	0.222	0.083
Elderly Female	0.143	0.129	0.211	0.081
All Non-Elderly	0.411	0.434	0.513	0.419
Non-Elderly Male	0.409	0.433	0.507	0.404
Non-Elderly Female	0.413	0.436	0.518	0.432

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4f
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Ontario
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.311	0.322	0.335	0.314
Under 18 years of age	0.263	0.258	0.311	0.256
18 to 64	0.339	0.361	0.381	0.343
65 and over	0.252	0.243	0.174	0.273
Males	0.309	0.329	0.343	0.316
Under 18 years of age	0.266	0.273	0.316	0.266
18 to 64	0.333	0.355	0.379	0.338
65 and over	0.272	0.323	0.172	0.343
Females	0.312	0.317	0.329	0.312
Under 18 years of age	0.260	0.245	0.312	0.246
18 to 64	0.344	0.366	0.378	0.348
65 and over	0.241	0.215	0.151	0.239
All families	0.354	0.364	0.377	0.357
Economic families 2+	0.295	0.303	0.326	0.297
Elderly families	0.344	F	0.176	0.353
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.291	0.296	0.341	0.292
Married couples	0.333	0.422	0.415	0.375
Two-parent families with children	0.274	0.271	0.334	0.275
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.285	0.268	0.329	0.269
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.290	0.268	0.332	0.274
Other non-elderly families	0.328	0.334	0.351	0.311
Unattached individuals	0.406	0.402	0.408	0.402
Male	0.396	0.404	0.439	0.395
Female	0.415	0.400	0.387	0.409
All Elderly	0.191	0.179	0.192	0.183
Elderly Male	F	F	0.217	F
Elderly Female	0.194	0.172	0.184	0.176
All Non-Elderly	0.437	0.447	0.502	0.426
Non-Elderly Male	0.416	0.425	0.483	0.408
Non-Elderly Female	0.457	0.468	0.520	0.442

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4g
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Manitoba
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.318	0.326	0.336	0.314
Under 18 years of age	0.286	0.310	0.337	0.309
18 to 64	0.342	0.359	0.385	0.340
65 and over	0.257	0.176	0.168	0.126
Males	0.321	0.352	0.360	0.317
Under 18 years of age	0.281	0.323	0.354	0.305
18 to 64	0.354	0.377	0.398	0.337
65 and over	0.326	F	0.171	F
Females	0.315	0.304	0.317	0.311
Under 18 years of age	0.294	0.295	0.329	0.313
18 to 64	0.331	0.344	0.383	0.343
65 and over	0.197	0.131	0.164	0.085
All families	0.338	0.326	0.355	0.309
Economic families 2+	0.317	0.324	0.349	0.325
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.321	0.331	0.367	0.334
Married couples	0.382	F	0.411	0.387
Two-parent families with children	0.304	0.348	0.322	0.324
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.296	0.279	0.382	0.318
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.289	0.283	0.385	0.314
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	0.325	0.327	0.359	0.296
Male	0.360	0.376	0.439	0.320
Female	0.387	0.276	0.298	0.265
All Elderly	F	0.166	0.190	0.106
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	F	0.124	0.178	0.064
All Non-Elderly	0.371	0.380	0.471	0.347
Non-Elderly Male	0.386	0.386	0.490	0.338
Non-Elderly Female	0.351	0.372	0.445	0.362

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4h
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Saskatchewan
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.313	0.342	0.319	0.311
Under 18 years of age	0.241	0.235	0.266	0.239
18 to 64	0.370	0.408	0.399	0.366
65 and over	0.106	F	0.123	0.131
Males	0.332	0.369	0.344	0.326
Under 18 years of age	0.231	0.225	0.250	0.235
18 to 64	0.401	0.440	0.420	0.388
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	0.296	0.318	0.298	0.298
Under 18 years of age	0.250	0.244	0.273	0.243
18 to 64	0.340	0.376	0.381	0.345
65 and over	F	F	0.112	F
All families	0.375	0.401	0.365	0.372
Economic families 2+	0.299	0.334	0.327	0.301
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	0.059	0.023	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.311	0.339	0.345	0.314
Married couples	0.442	F	0.466	0.443
Two-parent families with children	0.220	0.226	0.255	0.211
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.332	0.321	0.358	0.342
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.335	0.324	0.362	0.347
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	0.454	0.444	0.390	0.442
Male	0.500	0.483	0.491	0.472
Female	0.382	0.387	0.299	0.396
All Elderly	F	F	0.132	F
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	F	F	0.120	F
All Non-Elderly	0.490	0.476	0.532	0.472
Non-Elderly Male	0.518	0.492	0.540	0.488
Non-Elderly Female	0.440	0.450	0.519	0.443

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4i
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, Alberta
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.330	0.336	0.348	0.341
Under 18 years of age	0.291	0.282	0.332	0.294
18 to 64	0.351	0.364	0.381	0.366
65 and over	F	F	0.132	F
Males	0.343	0.354	0.365	0.361
Under 18 years of age	0.296	0.279	0.324	0.293
18 to 64	0.371	0.395	0.402	0.399
65 and over	F	F	F	F
Females	0.317	0.319	0.333	0.322
Under 18 years of age	0.286	0.286	0.349	0.295
18 to 64	0.333	0.338	0.387	0.337
65 and over	F	F	0.144	F
All families	0.370	0.377	0.392	0.374
Economic families 2+	0.322	0.329	0.345	0.335
Elderly families	F	F	F	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.325	0.329	0.355	0.339
Married couples	0.366	F	0.363	0.373
Two-parent families with children	0.290	0.282	0.338	0.301
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.335	0.311	0.356	0.319
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.317	0.297	0.344	0.300
Other non-elderly families	F	F	F	F
Unattached individuals	0.406	0.403	0.420	0.399
Male	0.430	0.440	0.474	0.431
Female	0.384	0.372	0.380	0.371
All Elderly	F	F	0.156	F
Elderly Male	F	F	F	F
Elderly Female	F	F	0.147	F
All Non-Elderly	0.409	0.414	0.477	0.403
Non-Elderly Male	0.431	0.442	0.486	0.432
Non-Elderly Female	0.389	0.389	0.468	0.376

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Table 4j
Depth of Low Income: Various Groups, British Columbia
Market Basket Measure, Low Income Cut-Offs, and Low Income Measure – 2000

	MBM	LICO-IAT	LICO-IBT	LIM-IAT
All persons	0.318	0.359	0.360	0.362
Under 18 years of age	0.248	0.264	0.301	0.267
18 to 64	0.369	0.417	0.420	0.406
65 and over	0.133	0.122	0.169	0.126
Males	0.326	0.374	0.376	0.369
Under 18 years of age	0.242	0.251	0.295	0.249
18 to 64	0.385	0.444	0.435	0.433
65 and over	0.147	F	0.203	F
Females	0.311	0.345	0.347	0.355
Under 18 years of age	0.255	0.280	0.283	0.287
18 to 64	0.355	0.394	0.391	0.384
65 and over	0.122	0.106	0.148	F
All families	0.352	0.380	0.400	0.389
Economic families 2+	0.300	0.360	0.365	0.351
Elderly families	F	F	0.160	F
Elderly married couples	F	F	F	F
Other elderly families	F	F	F	F
Non-elderly families	0.312	0.369	0.388	0.364
Married couples	0.400	0.526	0.543	0.502
Two-parent families with children	0.249	0.280	0.342	0.290
Married couples with other relatives	F	F	F	F
Lone-parent families	0.247	0.238	0.287	0.234
Male lone-parent families	F	F	F	F
Female lone-parent families	0.254	0.250	0.290	0.238
Other non-elderly families	0.367	F	0.357	F
Unattached individuals	0.400	0.390	0.422	0.416
Male	0.431	0.425	0.464	0.425
Female	0.372	0.361	0.390	0.408
All Elderly	0.116	0.119	0.196	F
Elderly Male	F	F	0.251	F
Elderly Female	0.092	0.089	0.174	F
All Non-Elderly	0.472	0.454	0.511	0.441
Non-Elderly Male	0.483	0.475	0.513	0.454
Non-Elderly Female	0.461	0.434	0.508	0.430

Note: F: Too few observations to allow reliable estimates

Appendix A
Methodological Annex

The value added by the MBM to other tools to assess low income can best be understood by comparing and contrasting it with those tools.

Pre-income tax Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs-IBT)

This version of the LICOs represents a level of total income before the payment of income taxes at which, for a family of a given size and living in a rural or urban community of a given population level, the share of that income it would spend on food, clothing and footwear and shelter is twenty percentage points above that spent by the average family on these three categories of expenditure.

The income levels at which this occurs are calculated using econometric regressions for five different community sizes and for economic families ranging from one person to seven or more persons, producing thirty-five different low income cut-offs in all.[9] The current LICOs are based on 1992 expenditure patterns. They are updated each year to take into account changes in the Consumer Price Index for Canada.

The LICOs-IBT thus answer the question: How many Canadians live in families spending a share of their total pre-tax income on food, clothing and shelter twenty percentage points higher than average families of the same size living in the same broad community size did in 1992?[10]

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[9] The calculation of thresholds for five community sizes is in recognition of the fact that, generally speaking, shelter costs rise with the size of the community, being lowest in rural areas and highest in the largest urban centres. The five community sizes are census metropolitan areas (CMAs) with a population of 500,000 or more, CMAs with a population of 100,000-499,999, urban census agglomerations (CAs) with a population between 30,000 and 99,999, CAs and small urban centres with a population under 30,000 and rural areas (including communities with populations under 1000 not contained in a CMA or CA).

[10] In 1992 the average family spent 34.7% of its total pre-tax income on food, clothing and footwear and shelter. Thus the Low Income Cut-offs were set at the point in the income distribution where a family would spend 54.7% or more of its income on these three categories of expenditure. In 1992 the average family spent 44% of its *post-income tax income* on food, clothing and footwear and shelter. Thus, the post-income tax Low Income Cut-offs (LICOs-IAT) were set at the point in the income distribution where a family would spend 64% or more of its post- income tax income on these three categories of expenditure. Beginning with the *National Child Benefit Progress Report: 2002*, the LICOs-IAT will be used along with the LICOs-IBT to monitor the incidence and depth of low income among families with children.

Post- income tax Low Income Measure (LIM-IAT)

The post-income tax Low Income Measure is 50% of median adjusted family income using a post-income tax definition of income.

The word "adjusted" means that the median family post-income tax income is calculated in such a way as to take into account the fact that families of different sizes and compositions have different needs.

The way in which this is done is as follows: First, factors are assigned to each family member using an equivalence scale. In this scale the oldest person in the family receives a factor of one, the second oldest person in the family and all other family members aged 16 and over each receive a factor of 0.4 and all other family members under the age of 16 receive a factor of 0.3.

The values for each person in the family are added to determine the adjusted family size. The income of the family after the payment of income taxes is then divided by this sum. For example a couple with two children under age 16 would have an "adjusted family size" of 2 (1+0.4+0.3+0.3) and its total income would be divided by two. Single adults living alone would have an "adjusted family size" of one.

Accordingly, the equivalence scale assumes that the family of four requires twice as much post-income tax income to meet its household needs as an unattached adult living alone.

The median adjusted post-income tax family income is then determined. This is the adjusted post-income tax family income such that half of all economic families will be above and half below it.

The post-income tax LIM for an unattached individual is 50% of this amount. The LIMs for all other family configurations are equal to this amount multiplied by their "adjusted family size." As a result, a couple with two children would have a low-income cut-off twice that of a single adult living alone.

The LIM-IAT cut-offs are not adjusted for differences in community size. The threshold for a family of any given configuration is exactly the same regardless of the size of the community in which they live.

The LIM-IAT therefore, answers the question: How many Canadians have an after-tax income lower than 50% of the adjusted median income for all Canadian economic families in a given year?

It is a pure measure of relative low income and is automatically adjusted each year for changes in median family post-income tax income levels adjusted using its equivalence scale.

The Market Basket Measure (MBM)

Unlike either the LICOs or the LIM-IAT, the MBM is based on a specific basket of goods and services.

The cost of the goods and services in the MBM is calculated for a reference family of one male and one female adult aged 25-49 with two children, a girl aged 9 and a boy aged 13.[11] Despite recent trends showing an increasing share of persons living in alternative household configurations such as childless couples, lone parent families and unattached individuals, the two-parent, two child household is still the household type containing the largest share of Canada's population.

The cost of the goods and services in the "Market Basket" for all other household configurations is then calculated using the Low Income Measure equivalence scale (See the section on the LIM-IAT for a description of this scale).

For household sizes up to four, this equivalence scale is almost identical to that used to calculate the relative measure of disposable income poverty used by the United Nations and the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS). Their equivalence scale is simply the square root of household size.

The British poverty analyst, Anthony Atkinson, after an extensive study of the many equivalence scales used in developed countries, concluded that they tend to converge around the value of the square root of household size.

The choice of the LIM equivalence scale is therefore consistent with international practice, while reflecting judgements made by Statistics Canada in the Canadian context.

Distinctive Features of the MBM

The MBM is thus a "goods and services" indicator of low income whose cost is calculated for a number of specific urban communities and community sizes across Canada. As such, it can be used to answer a question not addressed by either the LICOs or the LIM-IAT: How many people in Canada live in families which lack the disposable income to purchase the goods and services in the "Market Basket" within their community or community size?

A second feature of the MBM is that it is more sensitive than either the LICOs or the LIM-IAT to differences in living costs among different communities and community sizes across Canada. This is because the MBM thresholds vary with the cost of the goods and services in the basket, not only between community sizes, but between communities of similar size in different provinces.

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[11] The ages of the family members must be specified to calculate the cost of their expenditures on food and clothing and footwear which vary with the age and gender of the household members.

This sensitivity to geographical differences in living costs and the transparency of the goods and services in the MBM were the features sought in the development of this new tool to assess low income.

Finally, the basic concept of low income underlying the MBM is being unable to purchase the goods and services in the Market Basket. This implies that the income to be compared to the thresholds should not be gross income, but a measure of the disposable income actually available to purchase these goods and services.

As a result, the following deductions are made from total family money income before comparing it to the cost of the basket:

- out of pocket spending on child care;[12]
- out of pocket spending on non-insured health care costs recommended by a health professional such as prescription drugs, health insurance premiums, aids for persons with disabilities and dental and vision care;
- personal income taxes and the personal portion of all payroll taxes such as Canada/Quebec Pension Plan contributions and Employment Insurance premiums;
- alimony and child support payments made to another family;
- all *mandatory* payroll deductions for employer-sponsored pension plans, union dues and employer-sponsored supplementary health care plans.

Expenditures on support payments, out-of-pocket child care expenses and mandatory payroll deductions other than EI premiums and C/QPP contributions are derived from responses to questions on Statistics Canada's Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID).

C/QPP contributions and EI premiums were calculated based on earnings and published contribution rates. Public health insurance premiums were based on provincial contribution schedules and net income.

For those who reported positive direct out-of-pocket medical expenses on line 330 of the income tax form this amount was used.[13] Otherwise amounts were imputed for each province from data from the Survey of Household Spending (SHS).

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[12] Out of pocket spending on child care and non-insured health care spending recommended by a health professional are not included in the cost of the basket because spending on these items varies so widely from family to family depending on the availability of free or subsidized child care and the health needs of family members. No "standard" basket component for either category of expenditure could be reasonably set. However, families that must spend significant amounts of money on such items obviously experience more difficulty purchasing goods and services to meet their other household needs than those who do not have to bear such costs. This is accounted for by deducting the amount spent on these items from each family's total money income before comparing it to the MBM thresholds.

[13] About 75% of those interviewed for the SLID gave permission to extract data from their income tax returns. All those who did so but did not report a positive amount on line 330 had the amount imputed in the same way as those who did not give access to their tax returns.

All of these deductions represent income that is not available to purchase the goods and services in the basket. As can be seen, this is a much more stringent concept of disposable income than that used for either the LICOs (which make no deductions from total money income before comparing that income to the LICO thresholds) or the LIM-IAT (which deducts only income taxes paid before comparing adjusted post-income tax family income to the LIM-IAT thresholds).

Consequently, even where the MBM threshold for a given family in a given community is lower than that calculated using the LICOs or the LIM-IAT, that family's MBM disposable income may fall under the MBM threshold even though its total or post-income tax income may exceed the thresholds for the other two measures. Such a family would be counted as part of the low-income population using the MBM but not as low income using the LICOs or the LIM-IAT.

The Composition of the MBM Basket

a) Food

The content of the food component of the MBM basket is as described in the Health Canada publication, *National Nutritious Food Basket 1998*, written by Judith Lawn.[14] The basket represents community standards of food expenditure in Canada as derived from Statistics Canada's *Survey of Family Food Expenditure in Canada 1996* and has been adjusted to be consistent with Health Canada's *Nutrition Recommendations* and current guidelines for fat and saturated fat intake for adults.

It is neither "an ideal diet" nor the cheapest diet which meets nutritional requirements. Instead it represents a nutritious diet which is consistent with the food purchases of ordinary Canadian households. It contains healthy foods that "people like to eat." It is designed to be "socially acceptable and contain sufficient variety to be nutritionally adequate and palatable over the long term." It includes more costly "basic processed foods such as yogurt or bread...since a family would not normally prepare those foods from raw ingredients."

The publication lists the amount of each type of food that would be purchased each week and the suggested purchase unit for the reference family. From these tables Statistics Canada was able to determine the annual cost of the food basket in the forty urban centres where it collects food price data.[15]

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[14] See Judith Lawn, *National Nutritious Food Basket 1998*, Health Canada (Ottawa, 1998). This publication was compiled under contract with the Nutrition and Healthy Eating Unit of the Health Promotion and Programs Branch of Health Canada. It reflected input from Federal, Provincial and Territorial nutritionists.

[15] It is assumed that in each province the cost of the food basket in rural areas is the same as in the smallest urban centre for which food price data are collected. This assumption is currently being tested by Statistics Canada in rural and urban centres in five provinces (British Columbia, Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador) using an independent source of food price data for the year 2000.

For example, in Ottawa in January of 2000 the average price for the standard quantity of 2% milk (a four litre bag) for the reference family was $3.49. Since the Nutritious Food Basket recommended an average weekly purchase of 10.45 litres, the weekly cost of milk for the family was (10.45litres/4.0 litres) x $3.49 = $9.12. This same procedure was followed for all the items in the food basket each month and the total average weekly cost for the twelve months was multiplied by fifty-two to obtain the annual cost.

The content of the food component of the MBM is provided in Appendix B, including the suggested purchase unit and the weekly quantities of food purchased.

The annual cost of each of the five components of the MBM basket for the nineteen urban areas and twenty-nine community sizes where a threshold for the reference family was calculated is provided in Appendix G.

The annual cost for the food component in 2000 ranged from $5331 in Hamilton, Ontario to $7623 in Prince George, British Columbia. The expenditure on food by the median reference family (including food purchased in restaurants) in 2000 was $7400. Thus the cost of the MBM food component ranges from 72% to 103% of this national median level.

b) Clothing and Footwear

In 1997, Winnipeg Harvest and the Winnipeg Social Planning Council developed a budget guide for families in the Winnipeg Census Metropolitan Area which they named the Acceptable Level of Living (A.L.L) measure. In 1999 the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Social Development Research and Information chose the clothing and footwear component of the A.L.L. for the MBM because it:

- was the most recent clothing and footwear "basket" developed in Canada;
- reflected an effort to provide clothing and footwear for common work, school and social occasions, a standard similar to that aimed for by the MBM; and
- had significant input from low-income persons.

For the 2000, 2001 and 2002 income years the A.L.L. clothing and footwear items will serve as an interim specification for this component of the MBM.

For the income year 2000 it was calculated as follows: First the cost of the clothing and footwear component of the A.L.L. basket for the reference family was determined by Winnipeg Harvest and the Winnipeg Social Planning Council. The content of the items of clothing and footwear comprising this component of the basket and their replacement schedule are provided in Appendix C.

Next, to determine the cost of this component of the basket in other urban centres the Prices Division of Statistics Canada used the relative spatial indices for clothing and footwear in October 1999 as published in Table 12 of Statistics Canada's monthly publication, *The Consumer Price Index*. These indices calculate the relative costs of various components of expenditure in at least one urban centre in each province.

Using the cost of the clothing and footwear component of the A.L.L. in Winnipeg as the base, the approximate cost of that component was determined in the other urban centres across Canada. The assumption was that the cost of clothing and footwear in the urban centres in each province for which the relative spatial price indices were available approximated that in other communities and community sizes within the same jurisdiction.

The reasons why the A.L.L. clothing and footwear component can serve only as an interim specification are as follows:

1. The quality of the items of clothing and footwear listed in the A.L.L. are not specified in sufficient detail for Statistics Canada to collect pricing data on a consistent basis across the country.

2. Just over half of all families of two adults and two children in Winnipeg spent more on clothing and footwear than did the reference family purchasing only the items in the A.L.L. clothing and footwear basket. This represents a standard somewhat above that aimed for by the MBM.

An alternative clothing and footwear component has been developed that is based on the A.L.L. clothing and footwear component, but is more specific in describing the quantity and quality of the items listed and uses a different replacement schedule. Data on the cost of this revised clothing and footwear component is being collected beginning in 2003.

The cost of the interim clothing and footwear component in 2000 ranged from $2110 in Charlottetown to $2292 in St. John's, Halifax, Toronto and Vancouver. The median cost nationally for clothing and footwear in 2000 for the reference family was $2450. Thus, the MBM cost levels fell between 86% and 93.6% of the overall median level.[16]

c) Shelter

The shelter component of the MBM reflects the average of the median rents for two-bedroom and three-bedroom rental units for each community and community size in each province where the number of observations permitted a statistically reliable calculation. Households whose rents were subsidised were included in the sample, but those paying no rent were excluded as were rental units requiring major repairs.

The choice of the average of the median rents for two and three-bedroom units was made because approximately half of two-adult, two-child renting families live in each of these two types of units.

[16] The overall median expenditure level on clothing and footwear for the reference family includes jewellery and accessories. Neither of these is included in the A.L.L. clothing component.

The median rent was chosen to ensure a decent quality of housing even in areas where there is a limited supply of available low-cost housing. Of course many low-income households will pay less than this amount for shelter, either because their rent is subsidised or because they are homeowners who have paid off the mortgage on their home. [17]

The rent component includes utilities (water, heat and electricity) as well as the following amenities: a stove, a refrigerator and the use of a clothes washer and clothes dryer. In cases where some or all of these items were not included in the rent, Statistics Canada adjusted costs as described below.

Three sources of data were used by Statistics Canada to calculate median rent levels adjusted for the cost of utilities and amenities. These were housing data from the 1996 Census long form, the rent supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey and the annual Survey of Household Spending.

Median rent levels (including utilities) in 1995 for the two types of units were calculated from the 1996 Census for each community and community size in each province. The census provides information on whether electricity, heat and water costs are included in the rent and, if not, the costs of these utilities. These amounts were then updated to 2000 levels for each province using the provincial Consumer Price Index for rental accommodation.

Inclusion of amenities in the rent varied widely between provinces. For example 91% of two-bedroom units in British Columbia included a refrigerator in the rent compared to only 12% in Québec. Therefore Statistics Canada made a further adjustment to median monthly rent levels. This was done by adding the products of the percentage of rental units without each amenity in each province times the monthly amortised cost of purchasing that amenity in the second decile of the reference family. These amounts were derived from the 1997-1999 average expenditures on these amenities in the second decile of the reference family as calculated from the annual Survey of Household Spending.

There were sufficient observations in the Census to calculate the average of the median adjusted rental levels for two and three-bedroom units for nineteen distinct urban areas and twenty-nine community sizes in the ten provinces. These were then averaged and multiplied by twelve to generate the cost of the shelter component for each of these forty-eight geographical areas.

As expected, variations in shelter costs were much wider than for food or for clothing and footwear. Annual shelter costs ranged from $4965 in rural Manitoba to $11,399 in Toronto. Generally speaking, as can be seen in Appendix G, the cost of shelter rises with the size of the community within provinces.

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[17] Homeowners with no mortgage still must pay shelter costs such as property taxes, utilities and home insurance, but these are usually less than the costs of rents which take these costs into account. However, at present there is no data source available which calculates, for each household, the value of rent subsidies paid in the form of rent-geared-to-income rents or the actual shelter costs of homeowners who have paid off their mortgages . This lack of data affects all low-income measures since the lower shelter costs faced by such households should be considered a form of imputed income. Its impact for the MBM is to **overestimate** the number of persons in families who lack the disposable income to purchase the standard of consumption represented by the MBM basket of goods and services. This overestimate is likely to be particularly important for persons over age 65 and for residents of the rural portions of the Atlantic Provinces, Manitoba and Saskatchewan where the proportion of households who own their residence without a mortgage is well above the average for Canada.

The actual median shelter cost for all two-adult, two-child Canadian families (including homeowners) in the 2000 Survey of Household Spending was $12,215. MBM shelter costs in rural Manitoba thus represented 41% of this median while those in Toronto were 93% of the national median.

d) Transportation

The transportation component of the MBM largely follows the recommendations of the National Council of Welfare in its publication, *A New Poverty Line: Yes, No or Maybe?*[18] These recommendations are based on the insight that in contrast to the cost of shelter, the cost of basic transportation is generally less expensive in large urban areas than in smaller communities or rural Canada.

This is because in large urban centres public transit passes can provide access to a wide range of shopping outlets, professional services and employment and learning opportunities that can be matched in areas not served by public transit systems only by purchasing and maintaining an automobile.[19]

As a result, in urban centres served by a public transit system the transportation component of the basket consists of the annual cost of two adult monthly transit passes plus one round trip taxi ride a month costing $16 to accommodate a shopping expedition where large items which cannot be carried by hand, are purchased. The $16 amount will be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for taxi rides for the province as a whole.

Statistics Canada determined that all but 3 of 49 urban centres with a population of 30,000 or more had public transit systems. Accordingly, in all centres of this size the transportation component described in the preceding paragraph was used.

In all other areas, including Charlottetown which has a population of over 30,000 but no public transit system, the transportation component of the basket consisted of the cost of paying for and operating a five-year old four-door, four-cylinder Chevrolet Cavalier.[20] This consists of the following items:

1. 20% of the cost of a 1995 model of this vehicle including interest charges on a 36 month loan for the vehicle's purchase price;
2. the annual cost of an adult driver's license fee;
3. the annual cost of registering the vehicle;
4. the cost of annual mandatory insurance for the vehicle;
5. the cost of 1500 litres of regular unleaded gasoline for the vehicle;
6. the cost of two oil changes and one tune-up annually.

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[18] See National Council of Welfare, *A New Poverty Line: Yes, No or Maybe?* (Ottawa: Winter 1998-99), p.24.

[19] The National Council of Welfare did not include the cost of purchasing the car in its recommendations.

[20] The cost of this component of the basket is highly sensitive to the age of the car. If a six-year old car were purchased every six years instead of a five-year old car every five years, the cost of transportation in areas outside those served by public transit systems would be reduced by $900. This particular model was chosen because it is widely available in used car outlets across Canada.

These costs were estimated separately for each province. The insurance cost assumes that the vehicle is driven to and from work and that the adult driver has not had an accident in the past six years.

In urban centres served by public transit the cost of the transportation component ranged from $1169 in Québec urban centres with a population between 30,000 and 99,999, to $2316 in Toronto.

In areas not served by public transit the cost of the transportation component ranged from $3517 in Alberta to $4113 in Manitoba. The main source of the variation was in the level of insurance coverage mandated in the different provinces.

For a list of the cities in which transportation costs are collected by Statistics Canada according to community size and the type of data collected for the MBM see Appendix E.

The median amount spent on transportation by all two-adult two child families was $6028.[21] Thus the amounts in smaller urban and rural areas represent a range between 58% and 68% of the national median.

Because rural and small urban area transportation costs are higher than for larger urban centres, the overall MBM thresholds for the different community sizes within each jurisdiction are much closer together than they are for Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-offs. That measure is based on how food, clothing and footwear and shelter spending is related to income and thus reflects the fact that shelter costs are higher in larger urban centres. However, it does not take into account transportation costs.

e) Other Goods and Services

There are several other goods and services that are encompassed by the MBM standard of consumption. The category "Other Goods and Services" includes expenditures on personal care, household needs, furniture (excluding the items included under shelter), basic telephone service, postage stamps, religious and charitable donations, school supplies and modest levels of reading material, recreation and entertainment. The reading, recreation and entertainment component includes a newspaper subscription, video rentals, YM/YWCA memberships, magazines, books and tickets for movies and sports events. The items included in the Other Goods and Services category are detailed in Appendix F.

Separately these goods and services comprise much smaller percentages of overall spending than food, clothing and footwear, shelter and transportation. Moreover, as with out-of-pocket spending for child care it is difficult to compile a standard basket component for these items.

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[21] This includes transportation costs such as spending on inter-city train, bus and airplane tickets not included in the MBM transportation component in either rural or urban areas.

As a result, it was decided to approximate the cost of these goods and services using a multiplier representing expenditures on them as a proportion of average spending on food and clothing and footwear by the second decile of the reference family.[22] The multiplier will be calculated each year using the detailed micro data from the main file of the Survey of Household Spending.

The spatial price indices calculated by Statistics Canada for these other goods and services for eleven urban centres across Canada vary in a range closer to that for food and clothing and footwear than to that for shelter and transportation. Thus expenditures for shelter and for transportation were not taken into account when calculating the multiplier. These vary much more widely between communities and community types (depending on whether they are served by public transit systems). [23]

This is the one component of the MBM basket whose cost is calculated using a "relative" methodology rather than being based on actual prices of specific goods and services.

The multiplier for 2000 based on a three-year moving average (1997-1999) of the ratio of spending on these items to spending on food and clothing and footwear in the second decile of the reference family is 68.9%. Thus, in each community and community size the combined expenditure on food and clothing and footwear in 2000 was multiplied by 0.689 to determine the cost of all the other goods and services listed in Appendix F.

Since the estimated cost of the Other Goods and Services is linked to the estimated costs for food and clothing and footwear, if the latter are out of line with the standard of consumption aimed at by the MBM the error will be compounded through the multiplier. This is why a revision to the clothing and footwear component of the basket has been undertaken.

The cost of these other items ranged from $5249 in Hamilton to $6828 in rural British Columbia.

Total median expenditures on all goods and services by the reference family in 2000 amounted to $44,212.[24] The overall MBM thresholds ranged from $21,182 in Québec urban centres with populations between 30,000 and 99,999 to $28,752 in British Columbia urban centres with a population under 30,000; representing a range from 48% to 65% of median consumption spending for the reference family.

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[22] The multiplier was calculated using the expenditure patterns of the second decile because, since 1980, the low income rate for families of 4 persons using Statistics Canada's 1992 base pre-income tax Low Income Cut-offs has never exceeded 15%, the mid-point of the second decile. In 2000, families in the second decile of the post-income tax income distribution had post income-tax incomes between $27,690 and $34,783.

[23] For the eleven cities surveyed to compile the relative spatial price indices in October 1999, the cost of shelter in the cheapest city was 61% below that in the most expensive city, for public transportation it was 34% lower. However, for clothing and footwear the differential was 9%, for food it was 7% and for household operations and furnishings it was also 7%.

[24] The median reference family had a pre-tax income of $65,000 in 2000 according to the Survey of Household Spending. Its expenditures included spending on child care costs and out-of-pocket health care costs.

Appendix B

Health Canada's National Nutritious Food Basket – 1998		
Suggested Purchase Units and Approximate Weekly as-Purchased Quantities, National Nutritious Food Basket – 1998 for a family of 2 adults with 2 children under 16		
Food	**Suggested Purchase Unit**	**Approximate Weekly as Purchased Quantities**
Milk Products		
2% Milk	4 L	10.45 L
Yoghurt, fruit, 2% BF	500 g	230 g
Cheddar cheese, medium	227 g	245 g
Processed cheese slices	500 g	275 g
Mozzarella cheese, 16.5% BF	227 g	365 g
Vanilla ice cream, 10% BF	2 L	930 mL
Eggs		
Grade A large	12 (1 doz)	12
Meats, Poultry, Fish		
Round steak	–	500 g
Boneless stewing beef	–	210 g
Ground beef, medium	–	655 g
Pork chops, loin	–	400 g
Chicken legs, no back	–	1.34 kg
Wieners, beef & pork	450 g	165 g
Sliced ham, 11% fat	175 g	335 g
Frozen fish fillets	400 g	200 g
Pink salmon, canned	213 g	115 g
Tuna, canned, in water	170 g	65 g
Meat Alternatives		
Baked beans, tomato sauce, canned	398 mL	330 mL
White beans, dry	454 g	80 g
Peanut butter	500 g	365 g

Health Canada's National Nutritious Food Basket – 1998 (continued)

Suggested Purchase Units and Approximate Weekly as-Purchased Quantities, National Nutritious Food Basket – 1998 for a family of 2 adults with 2 children under 16

Food	Suggested Purchase Unit	Approximate Weekly as Purchased Quantities
Grain Products		
Bread, enriched, white	675 g	1.4 kg
Bread, whole wheat	675 g	1.4 kg
Hot dog/hamburger rolls	8 pack	18 rolls
Flour, all purpose	2.5 kg	655 g
Flour, whole wheat	2.5 kg	165 g
Spaghetti/macaroni, enriched	900 g	755 g
Rice, long-grained, white, parboiled	900 g	550 g
Macaroni/cheese dinner, dry	225 g	155 g
Oatmeal, regular/quick-cooking	1 kg	55 g
Corn flakes	675 g	345 g
Shreddies™	800 g	345 g
Soda crackers	450 g	205 g
Social teas	400 g	455 g
Citrus Fruits and Tomatoes		
Oranges	–	710 g
Apple juice, canned, vitamin C added	1.36 L can	1 L
Orange juice, frozen concentrate	355 mL	330 mL
Tomatoes	–	560 g
Whole tomatoes, canned	796 mL	240 mL
Tomato juice	1.36 L can	165 mL
Other Fruit		
Apples	–	1.8 kg
Bananas	–	2.3 kg
Grapes	–	480 g
Pears	–	755 g
Raisins, seedless	750 g	100 g
Fruit cocktail, canned in juice	398 mL	335 mL
Potatoes		
Potatoes, fresh	4.54 kg	5.5 kg
French-fried potatoes, frozen	1 kg	615 g

Health Canada's National Nutritious Food Basket – 1998 (continued)

Suggested Purchase Units and Approximate Weekly as-Purchased Quantities, National Nutritious Food Basket – 1998 for a family of 2 adults and 2 children under 16

Food	Suggested Purchase Unit	Approximate Weekly as Purchased Quantities
Other Vegetables		
Broccoli	–	585 g
Cabbage	–	255 g
Carrots, fresh	1.1 kg bag	885 g
Celery	–	345 g
Cucumber	–	455 g
Lettuce, iceberg	–	450 g
Lettuce, romaine	–	595 g
Onions	–	740 g
Green peppers	–	305 g
Turnips (rutabaga)	–	360 g
Mixed vegetables, frozen	1 kg	330 g
Kernel corn, canned	341 mL	565 mL
Green peas, canned	540 mL	215 mL
Fats and Oils		
Margarine, tub, non-hydrogenated	454 g	365 g
Butter	454 g	190 g
Canola oil	1 L	230 mL
Salad dressing (mayo type, <35% oil)	500 mL	195 mL
Sugar and Other Sweets		
Sugar, white	2 kg	845 g
Strawberry jam	500 mL	155 mL

Appendix C

Social Planning Council of Winnipeg and Winnipeg Harvest Acceptable Level of Living (A.L.L.) 2000		
Item	**A.L.L. Quantity and Unit Cost**	**A.L.L. Yearly Estimated Cost**
Runners (child 1)	3 @ $12	36.00
Runners (child 2)	3 @ $12	36.00
Runners (adult 1)	1 @ $40	40.00
Runners (adult 2)	1 @ $40	40.00
Dress shoes (child 1)	1 @ $20	20.00
Dress shoes (child 2)	1 @ $20	20.00
Dress shoes (adult 1)	1 @ $60	60.00
Dress shoes (adult 2)	1 @ $60	60.00
Sandals (child 1)	1 @ $15	15.00
Sandals (child 2)	1 @ $15	15.00
Sandals (adult 1)	1 @ $20	20.00
Sandals (adult 2)	1 @ $20	20.00
Winter boots (child 1)	1 @ $40	40.00
Winter boots (child 2)	1 @ $40	40.00
Winter boots (adult 1)	1 @ $90	30.00 (for 3 years)
Winter boots (adult 2)	1 @ $90	30.00 (for 3 years)
Rubber boots (child 1)	1 @ $12	12.00
Rubber boots (child 2)	1 @ $12	12.00
Rubber boots (adult 1)	1 @ $25	6.25 (for 4 years)
Rubber boots (adult 2)	1 @ $25	6.25 (for 4 years)
Socks (child 1)	8 @ $2.38	19.04
Socks (child 2)	8 @ $2.38	19.04
Socks (adult 1)	5 @ $2.20	11.00
Socks (adult 2)	5 @ $2.20	11.00
Underwear (child 1)	6 @ $2	12.00
Underwear (child 2)	6 @ $2	12.00
Underwear (adult 1)	4 @ $9	36.00
Underwear (adult 2)	4 @ $9	36.00
Bra (adult 2)	3 @ $26	78.00
Long underwear (child 1)	5 @ $3.46	17.30
Long underwear (child 2)	5 @ $3.46	17.30
Long underwear (adult 1)	1 @ $40	20.00 (for 2 years)
Long underwear (adult 2)	1 @ $40	20.00 (for 2 years)

Social Planning Council of Winnipeg and Winnipeg Harvest Acceptable Level of Living (A.L.L.) 2000 (continued)		
Item	**A.L.L. Quantity and Unit Cost**	**A.L.L. Yearly Estimated Cost**
Pants (child 1)	6 @ $12	72.00
Pants (child 2)	6 @ $12	72.00
Pants (adult 1)	2 @ $40	80.00
Pants (adult 2)	2 @ $40	80.00
Shorts (child 1)	3 @ $13	39.00
Shorts (child 2)	3 @ $13	39.00
Shorts (adult 1)	1 @ $20	20.00
Shorts (adult 2)	1 @ $20	20.00
T-shirts (child 1)	3 @ $10	30.00
T-shirts (child 2)	3 @ $10	30.00
T-shirts (adult 1)	3 @ $15	45.00
T-shirts (adult 2)	3 @ $15	45.00
Sweater/Sweatshirt (child 1)	2 @ $20	40.00
Sweater/Sweatshirt (child 2)	2 @ $20	40.00
Sweater/Sweatshirt (adult 1)	2 @ $30	60.00
Sweater/Sweatshirt (adult 2)	2 @ $30	60.00
Pyjamas (child 1)	2 @ $15	30.00
Pyjamas (child 2)	2 @ $15	30.00
Pyjamas (adult 1)	1 @ $40	40.00
Pyjamas (adult 2)	1 @ $40	40.00
Bathing suit (child 1)	1 @ $15	15.00
Bathing suit (child 2)	1 @ $15	15.00
Bathing suit (adult 1)	1 @ $40	20.00 (for 2 years)
Bathing suit (adult 2)	1 @ $40	20.00 (for 2 years)
Jacket (child 1)	1 @ $60	60.00
Jacket (child 2)	1 @ $60	60.00
Jacket (adult 1)	1 @ $150	75.00 (for 2 years)
Jacket (adult 2)	1 @ $150	75.00 (for 2 years)
Rain gear (child 1)	1 @ $25	25.00
Rain gear (child 2)	1 @ $25	25.00
Rain gear (adult 1)	1 @ $40	20.00 (for 2 years)
Rain gear (adult 2)	1 @ $40	20.00 (for 2 years)
Miscellaneous (child 1)	n/a	15.00
Miscellaneous (child 2)	n/a	15.00
Miscellaneous (adult 1)	n/a	15.00
Miscellaneous (adult 2)	n/a	15.00
Legend: Adult 1 = man; Adult 2 = woman; Child 1 = boy; Child 2 = girl		

Appendix D

Percentage of rental units in which various appliances are included in the rent, Labour Force Survey (LFS) rent supplement, average of June to December 2000										
Province	**NF**	**PE**	**NS**	**NB**	**QC**	**ON**	**MB**	**SK**	**AB**	**BC**
2 bedroom rental units										
Fridge	82	91	87	81	12	84	90	85	91	91
Stove	81	92	89	80	13	85	89	88	91	92
Washer	13	12	9	8	3	9	27	36	18	31
Dryer	13	11	7	6	2	8	27	32	18	28
3 bedroom rental units										
Fridge	85	81	69	70	8	63	76	73	82	82
Stove	84	79	71	69	8	63	76	73	83	84
Washer	11	8	15	11	2	18	34	38	36	38
Dryer	9	8	14	10	2	18	38	37	37	36
Source: Statistics Canada										

Appendix E

Cities in which transportation items are collected[1]					
Urban Centre	**Urban Size[2]**	**Bus Fares**	**Insurance**	**Gasoline**	**Tune-ups**
St. John's	2	x	(x)	(x)	x
Cornerbrook	4	(x)	x	x	
Grand Falls	4			x	
Charlottetown	3		x	x	x
Halifax	2	x	(x)	(x)	x
Sydney	2	x	x	(x)	
Truro	3			x	
Moncton	2	x	(x)	(x)	x
Saint John	2	x	(x)	(x)	x
Fredericton	3	x	(x)	(x)	
Bathurst	4		x	x	
Montreal	1	x[3]	(x)[3]	(x)	x
Quebec City	1	x	(x)	(x)	x
Hull	2	x	(x)		
Chicoutimi/Joncquière	2	x	(x)	x	
Sherbrooke	2	x	(x)	x	
Trois-Rivières	2	x	(x)	x	
Drummondville	3	x	x		
Shawinigan/Shawinigan Sud	3	x	x		
St. Jean	3	x	x		
Granby	3	x	x		
Baie-Comeau	3		x		
Rouyn-Noranda	3		x		
Sorel	3		x		
Saint-Hyacinthe	3		x		
Valleyfield	3		x		
Victoriaville	3	x			
Thetford Mines	4		x		

Cities in which transportation items are collected[1] (continued)					
Urban Centre	Urban Size[2]	Bus Fares	Insurance	Gasoline	Tune-ups
Toronto	1	x	(x)	(x)	(x)
Ottawa	1	x	(x)	(x)	(x)
Hamilton	1	x	(x)	(x)	
London	2	x	(x)	(x)	
Kitchener	2	x	(x)		
St.Catharines/Niagara	2	x[4]	(x)		
Windsor	2	x	(x)	(x)	
Oshawa	2	x	(x)		
Sudbury	2	x	(x)	(x)	
Kingston	2	x	(x)		
Thunder Bay	2	x	(x)	(x)	x
Barrie	2		(x)		
Guelph	2		(x)		
Brantford	2		(x)		
Peterborough	2		(x)		
Cornwall	3		x		
Belleville	3		x		
Chatham	3		x		
Sarnia	3	x	x	x	
North Bay	3		x		
Timmins	3		x		
Sault Ste. Marie	3		x		
Winnipeg	1	x	(x)	(x)	x
Brandon	3	x	x	x	
Thompson	4	(x)			
Regina	2	x	(x)	(x)	x
Saskatoon	2	x	(x)	(x)	x
Moose Jaw	3	x	x	x	
Prince Albert	3	x		x	
Swift Current	4	(x)			
Yorkton	4	(x)			
Calgary	1	x	(x)	(x)	x
Edmonton	1	x	(x)	(x)	x
Lethbridge	3	x	x	x	
Medicine Hat	3	x			
Red Deer	3	x			
Fort McMurray	3	x			

Cities in which transportation items are collected[1] (continued)					
Urban Centre	**Urban Size[2]**	**Bus Fares**	**Insurance**	**Gasoline**	**Tune-ups**
Vancouver	1	x	x	(x)	(x)
Victoria	2	x	x	(x)	x
Kelowna	2	x	(x)	(x)	
Abbotsford/Matsqui/Mission	2	x	(x)[5]	(x)	x
Chilliwack	3		x		
Penticton	3		x		
Nanaimo	3	x			
Kamloops	3	x	x		
Prince George	3	x	x	x	
Williams Lake	4		x		
Whitehorse	4	x	x	x	x
Yellowknife	4	x	x	x	x
Iqaluit	4				x

Note: Quotes in brackets ( ) are not used in MBM Transportation calculations

[1] Source: Prices Division, Statistics Canada

[2] Size of Area: 1 – 500,000 +
2 – 100,000 - 499,999
3 – 30,000 - 99,999
4 – Urban <30,000

[3] Includes separate quote for "St. Jérôme" within the Montreal CMA

[4] Includes separate quote for "Welland" and "Niagara Falls" within the St. Catharines/Niagara CMA

[5] Includes separate quote for "Matsqui" and "Mission"

Appendix F

Survey of Household Spending (SHS) items included in Other Expenses calculation: numerator	
SHS Item Number	**SHS Item Description**
2200	Purchase of telephones and equipment
2202-2204	Telephone services
2230	Postal and other communication services
2310	Household cleaning supplies
2320-2330	Paper, plastic and foil household supplies
2380	Other household supplies
2500	Furniture
2510	Rugs, mats and underpadding
2520	Window coverings and household textiles
2540	Room air conditioners, portable humidifiers and dehumidifiers
2552	Microwave and convection ovens
2560	Small electric food preparation appliances
2580	Vacuum cleaners and other rug cleaning equipment
2584	Sewing machines
2586	Other electric equipment and appliances
2590	Attachments and parts for major appliances
2640	Lamps and lampshades
2650	Non-electric kitchen and cooking equipment
2660	Tableware, flatware and knives
2670	Non-electric cleaning equipment
2672	Luggage
2674	Home security equipment
2680	Other household equipment, parts and accessories
2690-2710	Maintenance and repairs of furniture and equipment
2720-2730	Services related to furnishings and equipment
3312	Other medicines and pharmaceutical products
3500-3580	Personal care
3700	Sports and athletic equipment
3720	Toys and children's vehicles
3730	Electronic games and parts
3830	Video game rental
3770-3774	Photographic goods and services
3900	Bicycles, parts and accessories

Survey of Household Spending (SHS) items included in Other Expenses calculation: numerator (continued)	
SHS Item Number	**SHS Item Description**
3950	Bicycle maintenance and repairs
4000-4070	Home entertainment equipment and services
4100	Movie theatres
4110	Live sports events
4120	Live performing arts
4130	Admission to museums and other activities
4140	Rental of cablevision and satellite services
4150	Membership fees for sports and recreation facilities
4160	Single use fees for sports and recreation facilities
4170	Children's camps
4300-4340	Reading materials and other printed matter
4400-4410	Education supplies
4420-4430	Textbooks
4630	Service charges from banks
5220-5230	Contributions to charity
Source: Statistics Canada	

Appendix G

Market Basket Mesure (MBM) thresholds for reference family by component ($)						
Community/ Community size	**Food**	**Clothing & Footwear**	**Shelter**	**Transportation**	**Other**	**Total**
Newfoundland & Labrador Rural	7,045	2,292	5,835	3,955	6,430	25,556
Newfoundland & Labrador <30,000	7,045	2,292	6,560	3,955	6,430	26,281
St. John's CMA	6,796	2,292	7,298	1,451	6,258	24,095
PEI Rural	6,335	2,110	5,698	3,612	5,816	23,572
PEI <30,000	6,335	2,110	6,783	3,612	5,816	24,656
Charlottetown CA	6,335	2,110	7,561	3,612	5,816	25,434
Nova Scotia Rural	6,584	2,292	6,285	3,909	6,113	25,182
Nova Scotia <30,000	6,584	2,292	6,532	3,909	6,113	25,429
Nova Scotia 30,000 - 99,999	6,584	2,292	6,853	1,490	6,113	23,331
Halifax CMA	6,476	2,292	8,241	1,560	6,038	24,607
Sydney CA	6,283	2,292	6,840	1,286	5,905	22,606
New Brunswick Rural	6,573	2,269	5,452	3,917	6,089	24,299
New Brunswick <30,000	6,573	2,269	5,785	3,917	6,089	24,632
Fredericton CA	6,491	2,269	7,803	1,344	6,033	23,940
Saint John CMA	6,499	2,269	6,087	1,340	6,038	22,233
Moncton CA	6,372	2,269	7,118	1,230	5,951	22,940
Québec Rural	6,064	2,269	5,351	3,739	5,739	23,161
Québec <30,000	6,064	2,269	5,449	3,739	5,739	23,260
Québec 30,000 - 99,999	6,064	2,269	5,942	1,169	5,739	21,182
Québec 100,000 - 499,999	6,064	2,269	6,329	1,396	5,739	21,797
Québec City CMA	6,014	2,269	6,692	1,476	5,705	22,156
Montréal CMA	6,017	2,269	7,129	1,320	5,706	22,441
Ontario Rural	5,546	2,292	7,970	3,912	5,397	25,117
Ontario <30,000	5,546	2,292	7,945	3,912	5,397	25,091
Ontario 30,000 - 99,999	5,546	2,292	8,433	1,392	5,397	23,059
Ontario 100,000 - 499,999	5,833	2,292	9,175	1,645	5,595	24,539
Ottawa CMA	6,280	2,292	10,449	1,579	5,903	26,503
Hamilton CMA	5,331	2,292	9,289	1,584	5,249	23,745
Toronto CMA	5,778	2,292	11,399	2,316	5,558	27,343

Market Basket Mesure (MBM) thresholds for reference family by component ($) (continued)						
Community/ Community size	Food	Clothing & Footwear	Shelter	Transpor-tation	Other	Total
Manitoba Rural	5,935	2,269	4,965	4,113	5,650	22,932
Manitoba <30,000	5,935	2,269	6,167	4,113	5,650	24,135
Brandon CA	5,935	2,269	6,691	1,200	5,650	21,745
Winnipeg CMA	5,972	2,269	7,233	1,601	5,675	22,750
Saskatchewan Rural	6,133	2,246	5,092	3,995	5,770	23,237
Saskatchewan <30,000	6,133	2,246	6,075	3,995	5,770	24,220
Saskatchewan 30,000 - 99,999	6,133	2,246	6,223	1,286	5,770	21,658
Saskatoon CMA	6,356	2,246	7,096	1,272	5,924	22,814
Regina CMA	6,112	2,246	7,019	1,308	5,756	22,442
Alberta Rural	6,499	2,156	6,377	3,517	5,960	24,509
Alberta <30,000	6,499	2,156	7,587	3,517	5,960	25,719
Alberta 30,000 - 99,999	6,499	2,156	7,744	1,319	5,960	23,677
Edmonton CMA	6,259	2,156	7,874	1,488	5,795	23,571
Calgary CMA	6,183	2,156	8,707	1,392	5,743	24,180
BC Rural	7,623	2,292	7,699	3,934	6,828	28,376
BC <30,000	7,623	2,292	8,075	3,934	6,828	28,752
BC 30,000 - 99,999	7,623	2,292	8,796	1,353	6,828	26,892
BC 100,000 - 499,999	6,801	2,292	10,016	1,264	6,262	26,635
Vancouver CMA	6,697	2,292	11,020	1,592	6,190	27,791
Source: Statistics Canada						